

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of December 11 - December 15, 2006**

- 1. Pedestrian Safety:** On December 13, the CSAFE Initiative conducted a Multi-Jurisdictional Holiday Pedestrian Safety Campaign in the Takoma-Langley Crossroads. There were at least 36 volunteers educating the community, many of whom were Takoma-Langley Crossroads residents concerned about pedestrian safety. Approximately 18 officers participated as well (once again, from Takoma Park, Montgomery County and Prince George's County Police Departments); this time, in more of a community-policing role as opposed to a strict enforcement role. Police issued 80 warnings and 17 tickets. Collectively, police, volunteers and Santa Claus distributed over 2,000 brochures to the thousands of residents and visitors in the Takoma-Langley Crossroads community. *(Police)*
- 2. Doing Good Work:** On December 14, Det. John, Mrs. Dean and Gregg Wimms of the Montgomery County Victims Rights Association conducted a press conference to announce the formulation of the Terhas Araia Fund to assist the family of a recent homicide victim. A gift drive was also announced for the children. The Agency also launched its annual Holiday toy and food drive for local families in need. *(Police)*
- 3. Vehicle Enforcement (Wards 2, 3, & 4):** Officers conducted at least 126 traffic stops this week, of which 109 ended in written citations. More than half of the stops were made on New Hampshire and Flower Avenues, University Boulevard and Piney Branch Road. *(Police)*
- 4. New Employee/Officer in Training:** On December 11, Ms. Kevetta Wilson joined the agency as one of our Communications Dispatchers. On December 12, Detective Cannatella attended a CD and DVD counterfeit training school at The Maryland Transportation Authority Police Training Facility in Baltimore. *(Police)*
- 5. Leaf Collection:** December 22 marks the end of leaf collection. The crews have already begun final pick ups throughout the City. Please make sure your leaves are raked out prior to the last day. If the final collection has occurred on your street prior to your raking leaves to the curb, please call the leaf collection hotline to notify Public Works of your leaf pile. *(Public Works)*
- 6. Stormline Improvement to Begin in December:** The installation of a new stormwater line and inlet at the corner of Elm Avenue and Lincoln Avenue is scheduled to begin during the first week of January. The City Engineer, Ali Khalilian, will be overseeing the project. He can be reached at (301) 891-7620 or AliK@takomagov.org. *(Public Works)*
- 7. Franchise Agreement:** Council passed a Resolution on Monday, December 11 regarding the Franchise Agreement with Verizon. The City Manager will sign the appropriate documents, which will be forwarded to the County. *(Communications)*
- 8. Newsletter RFPs:** The City has RFPs out for Newsletter Production and Design Services, due Monday December 18th, and Newsletter Printing Services, due January 8. These are available for download from the main page of the City web site. *(Communications)*

9. Open Studio Tour and Art Sale - Saturday, December 16 (City-wide): The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission's first annual Open Studio Tour and Holiday Art Sale will be held THIS SATURDAY, December 16 from noon until 5:00 pm. The event, sponsored in partnership with ASalon, will include over 20 individual artists studios and the work of 45 local artists. Additional information and a map noting the location of the various art studios can be found on the City's website at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/documents/studiomap.pdf>. Copies are also available at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. *(Housing and Community Development)*

10. New Hampshire Avenue Beautification - Community Gardens (Wards 2,3, and 6): City Staff have begun to explore possibilities of developing Community Gardens along the New Hampshire Avenue Corridor. Garden options range from non-profit associations that would work with youth and/or low-income communities to improve skills, food security and supplement income, and working with residential associations to develop individual rental plots or community landscaped formal gardens. For more information, please contact Charlotte Youngblood at (301) 891-7220. *(Housing and Community Development)*

11. Old Town Winter Evening Festivities (Ward 1): Main Street Takoma offers cheer for dark winter evenings. The Promotions Committee has scheduled local performers every night from tonight, Friday, December 15th to December 23rd at the Gazebo Park and the Ecco Pavilion, both on Carroll Avenues from 6:30 to 7:15 each night. Performances range from full chorale groups to fire dancers. Old Takoma shops will extend their hours, staying open later than usual, and many will have snacks or hot drinks to welcome and warm shoppers and performers. These events complement the Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist Church staging of "The Bethlehem Nativity Drama" with 75 performers, live camels, horses and sheep by Francisco de Araujo. For more information and performance schedules see "Events" on www.mainstreettakoma.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

12. Landlord-Tenant Affairs: Landlord-Tenant Mediation Specialist, Moses A. Wilds, Jr., attended a training this week sponsored by the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County (CRCM) on "Creative Listening". CRCMC is a non-profit organization that provides no cost mediation services to residents and businesses in Montgomery County. *(Housing and Community Development)*